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SENATE RESOLUTION 61
By Williams

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend John D. Wallace for achieving 75 successful years in the hardware business.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those persons who through their professional efforts have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is John D. Wallace, whose company was recently honored by the NRHA for 75 years of service to the hardware industry through his business, the Wallace Hardware Company; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Wallace started working part-time in his father's company when he was eight years old; he is credited as saying "My father thought if he could keep me busy sweeping floors and washing windows in that five-story building, he could keep me out of trouble"; and

WHEREAS, he was inducted into the Junior Achievement of East Tennessee Business Hall of Fame, which recognizes outstanding contributions of business leadership to the history, growth, and economic development of the East Tennessee Region; and

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WHEREAS, John D. Wallace took over his father's company by serving as Chairman and President in 1959; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Wallace's company presently has 250 employees, many of whom have reported that he kept his business strong by reinvesting profits back into the company; and

WHEREAS, John Wallace's hands-on approach to all aspects of his hardware business has directly contributed to the company's success, exemplified by the Wallace policy that any incoming freight bill exceeding \$50 must be approved by Mr. Wallace; and

WHEREAS, in order to ensure profitable results and company growth, Mr. Wallace has employed sales representatives and dealers from wholesalers who have gone out of business or have been acquired by other distributors as well as instilling the company's key focus, customer service, into each employee; and

WHEREAS, the geographic region served by Wallace's hardware company extends as far south as Atlanta, as far east as the Atlantic Ocean, as far north as Pennsylvania, and west across most of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Wallace is also a deeply religious man; he uses his faith to guide him in his daily business affairs; every piece of outgoing company mail has a short, spiritual message included; and

WHEREAS, John Wallace, a revered and lifelong member of the Morristown community, is a devout member of the First Baptist Church, where he has endeavored to serve the Lord for the past sixty-two years; and

WHEREAS, during those sixty-two years of service Mr. Wallace has offered his stalwart leadership skills to the church body as Chairman of Deacons, member of the Finance Committee, Sunday School Superintendent, Sunday School Department Director, Church Training Director, and Brotherhood President; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Wallace holds a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from Baylor University and attended Mars Hill College in Mars Hill, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, John is most grateful for the love and support of his devoted wife, Paula; they have four children, and twelve grandchildren, all of whom they greatly adore; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to applaud Mr. John D. Wallace for his many professional accomplishments, one of which is his most notable commitment to the hardware industry; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we hereby honor and commend Mr. John D. Wallace and the Wallace Hardware Co. for achieving 75 successful years in business and receiving the NHRA Award for reaching this impressive milestone. We further extend our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.